

The Hong Kong Daily Press.

No. 5446

號五十四百四十五第

日九命月三年亥乙緒光

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, 4th MAY, 1876.

二年

號四月五英

港香

PRICE \$2 1/2 PER MONTE.

Arrivals.

May 3, St. PAUL, Siamese bark, 299, J. M. O'Brien, Bangkok 16th March, General TACK-MEE.
May 3, YOUTUNG, British sloop, 323, J. Eddell, Swallow, 2nd May, General—KWOX ACTHONG.
May 3, SAGO, U.S.S. corvette, 900, Comdr. McDougal, Manila April 29th.
May 3, LESTER, Spanish steamer, 216, Zubiaurine, Manila 30th April, General—A. MAGG. HEATON.
May 3, GLENINNIS, British steamer, 1,405, H. S. WILCOX, R.N.E., Saigon 29th April, Rice—JARDIN, MATTHEWS & Co.

Clearances.

At the HARBOUR MASTER'S OFFICE,
May 3rd.
Lizzie, for Swatow.
Palma, for Amoy.
Oscar Mooy, for Swatow.
Dora, for Tientsin.
Racehorse, for Bangkok.
Hailstone, sloop, for Swatow, &c.
Asia Minerva, for Chusan.
Glory, for Bangkok.
Nadesha, for Whampoa.

Departures.

May 3, DEVONIAN, sloop, for Shanghai.
May 3, OCHO, for Whampoa.
Passengers.
ARRIVED.
Per Ningpo, sloop, from Swatow—
59 Chinese.
Per Ganges, sloop, from Saigon—
30 Chinese.
TO DEPART.
Per Hailstone, sloop, for Swatow, &c.—
200 Chinese.

Reports.

U.S.S. corvette Sago reports left Manila on 29th April, and had strong N.E. monsoon throughout.

The British steamer Gleninnis reports left Saigon on 29th April, and had strong N.E. winds and a high sea to arrival.

The Spanish steamer Leyte reports left Manila on 30th April, and had strong N.E. winds and heavy weather, with high sea, throughout the passage.

The Siamese bark St. Paul reports left Swatow on 2nd May, and had light N.E. winds and heavy weather. Left the Danish steamer Flyer in Swatow. At 6 p.m. passed 2 steamers of Tongki Point, steering Northward.

MANILA SHIPPIING.

ARRIVED.
April 18th, sloop, Aurora from Liverpool at Cadiz, & Manila from Hong Kong, 16th April.
Per Manila from Hong Kong, 16th April.
Per Liverpool, Esmeralda, 2nd April, sloop, for Saigon.
Per Hong Kong, S. E. Meld for Saigon.
Per Manila, 22nd, Lyra for London, Angustura for English Channel.

Vessels Expected at Hong Kong.

(Arrived or Due.)
Vessel's Name. From. Date.
Fede Speranza—Swansea, Sept. 14.
Fluilla—Sunderland, Oct. 5.
Livingstone—Kiel, Oct. 23.
Castris—Sheldene, Oct. 31.
Anna Dorothy—London, Nov. 8.
Wentworth—Glasgow, Nov. 20.
Villa—Liverpool, Nov. 21.
Albion—Cardiff, Dec. 1.
Harsch—Swansea, Dec. 7.
Livingstone—Cardiff, Dec. 12.
Swansea, Dec. 14.
Sophie—Antwerp, Dec. 14.
Sunset—New York, Dec. 25.
Minerva—Glasgow, Jan. 3.
Gloria—Cardiff, Jan. 9.
Muriel—Cardiff, Jan. 11.
Ed. James—Portland, Jan. 15.
Aled—Shields, Jan. 16.
Rouelle M'Neil—New York, Jan. 21.
Halcyone—London, Jan. 23.
Ernest—Antwerp, Jan. 27.
Roko—Hamburg, Feb. 5.
Virginia—Glasgow, Feb. 6.
Sister—Glasgow, Feb. 6.
Ella—Palermo, Feb. 7.
Clarissa (6)—Shields, Feb. 8.
Alma—Shields, Feb. 10.
Golde Spur—London, Feb. 12.
Hervate—London, Feb. 15.
Gusta—Cardiff, Feb. 18.
Densil (6)—London, Feb. 27.
Queen of the Seas—Liverpool, Feb. 27.
Kello—London, Feb. 1.
Kaisa—London, Feb. 3.
Oscar (4)—London, Feb. 5.
Amin—Swansea, Feb. 11.
Anton (4)—Liverpool, Feb. 12.
Cragforth (4)—London, Feb. 15.
Edward James—Portland, Feb. 22.

Auction Sales To-day.

J. M. ARMSTRONG,
At 2 p.m.,
Household Furniture, &c.

HONGKONG, CANTON, AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE.

M. P. A. DA COSTA has this day been appointed Secretary pro. tem. to the above Company.
Applications for the post of Secretary will be received at the Office of the Company.

RICHARD DEACON,
Chairman of the Board of Directors.

F. KRUPP'S CAST STEEL WORKS,
ESSEN (GERMANY),
SOLE AGENT FOR CHINA AND
JAPAN.

NOTICE.

W. G. HALE & Co.,
Agents, 1909 Hongkong, 18th November, 1874.

NOTICE.

STEAMERS leaving this port requiring COAL, can obtain it from the Under-signed.

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To be Let.

TO LET.

THE PREMISES

at 1670 Hongkong, 7th July, 1874.

TO LET.

SOME HOUSES

OF PEDDAR'S HILL

TO LET.

DAVID SASSOON, SONS & Co.

TO LET.

W.H. NOTLEY

TO LET.

NOTICE.

TO LET.

W.H. NOTLEY

TO LET.

NOTICE.

EXTRACTS.

A MYSTERY.

BY S. G. MITCHELL.
The river hemmed with leaning trees
With them the shadows green;
A lone figure of man was shown;
The open pine trees.
Our sharp tall past above them all
Stands the mountain green;
I see the pine trees;
The mountains of Lang.
Nature's own, the sun on,
In the way he goes;
A scene of familiars;
With every forest green.
No otherwise than one;
Could have the listed pine;
No otherwise the pine hold
Not the red sun.
Sap the long and low foot-hills
The mountain red should sweep;
Their place the mountain took;
The white, torn frays of their clouds
Were now no longer.
Yester before the river's rim
Was pressed by feet of mine;
Never before mine has crossed
That broken mountain line.
A scene, strange and known,
Walked with me as my guide;
The skirts of some forgotten life
Traded noiseless at my side.
We it a dim remembrance dream;
Or perhaps those old?
The scene which the mountain kept,
The river never left.
Be from the vision it passed;
A tender love I bear;
And, pleasant as a dawn of Spring,
The thought within me grew.
That love would never change,
And act all spirits;
And, mixy of dreams of earth,
The hills were seen.

THE INDIAN GAMES OF SKILL.

The correspondent of the *Bombay Gazette* thus describes some feats of skill performed at Bhopal on the occasion of the Raj marriage by the Sikh *Qazis*. Your small sticks at four feet in height each were perpendicular to the ground in a line at equal distances, and each made as he galloped past at full speed made four cuts; most of the men sliced a portion of orange and what elicited great applause was that one of the Bhopal officers shaved half, or even one of the five oranges. A sheet was then suspended on a sort of pillar, and the men were to ride fast and eat it. Captain Buller, the commandant of the Central India Horse, divided the sheep in one single-cut; but although nearly 100 cuts were made at another carcass by the men at various times, not one succeeded in severing it. Captain Buller was destined to perform the *coups de grace*, which he did in fine style, and the lower end of the carcass dropped at one single-cut with the nicely shaped Sikh scimitar. After this another very dexterous feat which is common to the Sikhs was performed. This consists in throwing circular-shaped steel quoits at anything. The old Sikhs throw these quoits with deadly aim, and have been known to decapitate scores of their enemies in a night without making the slightest noise. They generally throw with their left hand, and the quoit whirls at an awful speed with as swift and precise a course as a bullet.

CROQUET CONDEMNED.

If there is any amusement to which it would seem that no rational being could possibly take exception, it is croquet. In England, it is the master's chief worldly delight, and in the evangelical sector of venerable years does not hesitate to share its mild amusement with the female members of his flock.

THE ORDER OF THE GARTER.

In this country a Methodist Conference which condemned whist and denounced dancing made an exception in favour of croquet, sanctioning it as an amusement in which decent people could lawfully engage. Not only is the morality of croquet thus placed beyond suspicion, but its usefulness as a hygienic agent has been strenuously urged. We have been told that it afforded the best exercise to young ladies and innocent young men, and that it developed any quantity of eligible muscles. It expanded the chest, strengthened the arm, and gave elasticity to the foot and leg. In fact, it was amusement, exercise, and aesthetics combined, croquet players had gradually come to the conviction that in playing croquet they were fulfilling a duty to themselves and to future generations.

It is sad to find that the world in general has been utterly mistaken, and that croquet is in reality full of frightful dangers. It is not the mind of the croquet player which is endangered by this seductive sport, although it is possible that weak intellects have been still further weakened by a long succession of those misfortunes which in the language of the game transform the unhappy player into a "booby." Neither is it alleged that the morals of the community are deteriorated by the mild flirtation which usually ensues between the young, lady whose ball is "helped" and the gentleman who helps it. The ill to which the croquet player is the inevitable heir are purely physical, and a list of them has recently been furnished by a London paper.

Croquet, we are told by this authority, produces first of all, a curvature of the spine. This is the necessary consequence of the position in which the player stands when striking the ball. Moreover, there are a dozen or so other deformities which, in addition to the game entails. The player develops the muscles of the right arm at the expense of those of the left. He also, like the left, is not to be sought elsewhere. The battle of Crorey, which was fought in 1546, and the successful campaign which followed it above all, the distinguished qualities of surface, ultimately resulting in lameness. The muscles of the left leg, also, are to make that limb ridiculous in comparison with the companion. The unfortunate croquet-player, having the deformed, disproportionately large right arm, and an equally disengaged left leg, together with painful lameness and permanent lameness, finally perishes miserably from consumption, failed by the unnatural constraint to which the cheat is subject when stooping over the ball.

This is really a dismaying report, and were implicit reliance to be placed upon it, a dreary, a catalogue of woes there would be an immediate turning of malists into kindling wood, and a bursting of croquet-hoops into telegraph wires. As it is, the reasoning being who is addicted to croquet will reflect that inasmuch as the player rarely stoops except when striking the ball, and that he is not accompanied only by intervals during the game, the danger of ruining the spine is hardly worth considering, and is rather less than is incurred in writing a small-sized room, or writing the briefest of letters. Moreover, he who does not deserve the name even of the latter has foot with the mallet, so that this idea of having the mallet could only have presented with an ingrafted beginning, who had to go on by twisting his foot for the ball. Indeed, this affliction of croquet bears witness to the fact that it is the work of some unfortunate man, who has either brought himself into his own misery by playing, or has been converted into a misanthrope by the contemplation of the superior skill of his rival when playing in partnership with the object of his affection. At all events, his dilemmas are as to the fate of the croquet and the player may safely be disregarded, and the owners of that game may pursue the even tenor of their way, heedless of curvatures, lameness, consumption, and unequal development limbs. — *New York Times*.

A REASON ASKED.

How it is that people generally have such an insuperable objection to being laughed at? It would seem as if laughter had far more power than either scorn or hate. The number of those who would

rather be reviled than

is simply incredible, yet, I presume, it can scarcely be that the latter is the more uncommon of the two! — *Fragments of Thought*.

A SUNDAY AT NAPLES.

"Naples, April 27.—It is now eight o'clock, and we are dressed, and thoroughly refreshed after ten or eleven hours' sleep, which we had much need of, as the previous two nights had been but short ones indeed, so far as any sleep was concerned. The view from our window is very grand. Eight acres of the bay of Vesuvius, with a dull cloud of smoke floating over it, but only saw faint imagination to adjust his godlike within man, as the expression of Art, but only as the outcome of his own confused thoughts. It is this incapacity of him to see the best in Art, and to trace it to its parent source, that leads him to perceive in the finest Italian pictures of the sixteenth century merely a masterly accumulation of the nudi, an apotropaic of robust action and good outline not as an expression of the godlike within man, as in prime Greek Art, but only as the outcome of his own confused thoughts. These must be derived from seeing modern halot-dancers, prize-fighters, or operatic groupings. 'We say the less, this is a very questionable disservice of the ideas which he has introduced, and his freedom 'Mardon' and 'School of Actions.' Da Vinci has the frescoes of the Sistine Chapel, but is elated with sufficient distinctness the equality and limitations of Tintoretto's philosophy, and ought to put the most thoughtful reader on guard against his historical seductions. — *Art Journal*.

LIFE IN NEW PLYMOUTH TWO HUNDRED AND FIFTY YEARS AGO.

It appears that New Plymouth then consisted of two streets on the side of a hill, crossing each other at right angles. The houses were constructed of hewn planks and were enclosed in gardens, and protected by stockades against any sudden attack. At the end of the two streets there were wooden gates. In the centre of the cross street stood the Governor's house, before which was a square enclosure planted with four guns, so disposed as to flank the streets. On the hill above was a species of fort, from the flat timber roof of which six cannons commanded the surrounding country. The lower part of this building was used as a church, and the manners of the worshippers were as martial as the structure in which they met. They assembled by beat of drum, each man in his cloak, and with his musket or firelock, and took up their station in front of the captain's door. Thence they marched to the church in military order, three abreast, but without beat of drum. Behind the Governor, in a long robe, to his right was the preacher, also robed, and to his left the captain, with his side arms, and a small cane in his hand. In the church itself, each man set his weapons down beside him. "Thus," says De Resiers, "they are constantly on their guard, night and day." They were no end of confessional boxes, all engaged in the baptism of several babies, and we heard part of a sermon by a monk, who mounted a sort of pulpit, and the men were to ride fast and eat it. Captain Buller, the commandant of the Central India Horse, divided the sheep in one single-cut; but although nearly 100 cuts were made at another carcass by the men at various times, not one succeeded in severing it. Captain Buller was destined to perform the *coups de grace*, which he did in fine style, and the lower end of the carcass dropped at one single-cut with the nicely shaped Sikh scimitar. After this another very dexterous feat which is common to the Sikhs was performed. This consists in throwing circular-shaped steel quoits at anything. The old Sikhs throw these quoits with deadly aim, and have been known to decapitate scores of their enemies in a night without making the slightest noise. They generally throw with their left hand, and the quoit whirls at an awful speed with as swift and precise a course as a bullet.

THE ORDER OF THE GARTER.

Turkey has the Medici, Italy the Order of the Star, and the most sumptuous development of any order is that of the Order of the Garter, which is the chief worldly delight of the master's chief worldly delight, and in the evangelical sector of venerable years does not hesitate to share its mild amusement with the female members of his flock.

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INSURANCES.

ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES at Current Rates.

— *MELOHES & CO.*

Agents, Royal Insurance Company.

1780 Hongkong, 25th October, 1875.

PHOENIX FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY.

FROM this date, until further notice, a dis-

count of Twenty per cent. (20%) upon the current local rates of premium will be allowed upon insurance effected with this Company.

DOUGLAS LA PRAIRIE & CO.

Agents, 1122 Hongkong, 27th June, 1875.

NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY AT HAMBURG.

THE Undersigned having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES to the extent of \$50,000, on first-class risks at current rates.

— *MELOHES & CO.*

Agents, North German Fire Insurance Company.

1774 Hongkong, 1st May, 1875.

THE SECOND COLONIAL SEA AND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY OF BATAVIA.

THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES to the extent of \$50,000, on first-class risks at current rates.

— *MELOHES & CO.*

Agents, Second Colonial Sea and Fire Insurance Company.

1774 Hongkong, 1st May, 1875.

YANG-TSZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF SHANGHAI.

CAPITAL AND SURPLUS \$200,000 TAEL.

POLICIES granted on Mortes Dilecta to all parts of the world, at current rates.

This Association will make available, for the protection of the foreign firms, the sum of \$100,000, or thereabouts, for shareholders on Capital, and therefore distribute among Policy holders annually, in cash, ALL THE PROFITS of future services. The latterly at the outset of Underwriting Business, we rec'd to amount of premium contributed.

DOUGLAS LA PRAIRIE & CO.

Agents, 1774 Hongkong, 9th November, 1875.

CHINA AND JAPAN MARINE INSURANCE COMPANY.

NOTICE.

THE Undersigned, having been appointed Agents for the above Company, are prepared to GRANT INSURANCES to the extent of \$300,000, on first-class risks at current rates.

— *DOUGLAS LA PRAIRIE & CO.*

Agents, China and Japan Marine Insurance Company.

1774 Hongkong, 1st January, 1876.

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— *DOUGLAS LA PRAIRIE & CO.*

Agents, Phoenix Fire Insurance Company.

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